

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
"Portable Tree Stand Having Seating and Standing Platforms Adjustable to the Tree Angle"
Serial No. 10/644,457
Atty. Docket No. 030717.002
Page 3 of 12

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A portable tree stand designed to be releasably secured to a non-vertical tree, comprising:
 - 5 a standing platform having a standing platform deck, at least one standing platform support, a support post receiver, and at least one platform retainer having a retainer proximal end and a retainer distal end wherein the retainer proximal end is releasably secured to the standing platform;
 - 10 a seating platform having a seating platform deck, a seating support assembly, and a support post mount;
 - 15 a mounting structure having a structure proximal end, a structure distal end, a mounting chain having a first end and a second end, and an attachment member to releasably secure the at least one platform retainer distal end and the mounting chain to the mounting structure, wherein the seating support-platform assembly is rotably connected substantially near the structure distal end, the at least one standing platform support is rotably connected substantially near the structure proximal end, and the attachment member is connected between the structure proximal end and the structure distal end and includes a chain tightening assembly attached to the mounting chain at the first end and further includes a mounting chain receiver for releasably receiving the mounting chain upon encircling the tree whereby the chain tightening assembly
 - 20 may impart a tensile load on the mounting chain thereby gripping the tree; and a seat support post having a post proximal end and a post distal end, wherein the seat support post is rotably connected to the support post mount substantially near the post distal end

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
"Portable Tree Stand Having Seating and Standing Platforms Adjustable to the Tree Angle"
Serial No. 10/644,457
Atty. Docket No. 030717.002
Page 4 of 12

and the post proximal end is adjustably received by the support post receiver, such that the standing platform deck and the seating platform deck may remain in a predetermined angular relationship despite a non-orthogonal relationship between the mounting structure and the standing platform deck or the seating platform deck.

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2. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 1, wherein the seating support assembly includes at least one receiver attached to the seating platform deck and at least one mount rotably attached to the mounting structure, wherein the at least one receiver and the at least one mount are formed to cooperate with each other such that the seating platform deck and the at least one receiver may slide away from the mounting structure on the at least one mount.
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3. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 2, further including a translation limiter to limit the travel range of the seating platform deck and the at least one receiver.
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4. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 1, wherein the mounting structure includes at least one primary support to which the standing platform is rotably connected and at least one secondary support to which the seating platform is rotably connected, whereby the at least one primary support and the at least one secondary support are configured to cooperate with each other such that a distance between the standing platform and the seating platform is adjustable.
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5. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 1, wherein the at least one standing platform support is at least one adjustable platform support having a first member and a second member

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
"Portable Tree Stand Having Seating and Standing Platforms Adjustable to the Tree Angle"
Serial No. 10/644,457
Atty. Docket No. 030717.002
Page 5 of 12

configured to cooperate thereby permitting the standing platform deck to slide away from the mounting structure, and further including at least one translation limiter.

6. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 1, wherein the chain tightening assembly includes a threaded rod having a rod limiter at a first end and attached to a chain interface at a second end, a coupling, having at least one gripping stud, threadedly engaged to the threaded rod, and a mounting bracket for receiving the threaded rod and rotably joining the assembly to the attachment member
- 10 7. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 1, wherein the seat support post is formed with at least one adjustment receiver sized to cooperate with an adjustment pin so as to fix the position of the seat support post in relation to the standing platform.
- 15 8. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 1, wherein the mounting structure further includes a mounting plate that releasably connects the mounting structure to a tree screw fixed in the tree.
9. (currently amended) A portable tree stand designed to be releasably secured to a non-vertical tree, comprising:
 - 20 a standing platform having a standing platform deck, at least one standing platform support, a support post receiver, and at least one platform retainer having a retainer proximal end

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

"Portable Tree Stand Having Seating and Standing Platforms Adjustable to the Tree Angle"

Serial No. 10/644,457

Atty. Docket No. 030717.002

Page 6 of 12

and a retainer distal end wherein the retainer proximal end is releasably secured to the standing platform;

a seating platform having a seating platform deck, a seating support assembly including at least one receiver attached to the seating platform deck and at least one mount rotably attached

- 5 to a mounting structure, wherein the at least one receiver and the at least one mount are formed to cooperate with each other such that the seating platform deck and the at least one receiver may slide away from the mounting structure on the at least one mount, and a support post mount;

the mounting structure having a structure proximal end, a structure distal end, a mounting chain having a first end and a second end, and an attachment member to releasably secure the at

- 10 least one platform retainer distal end and the mounting chain to the mounting structure, wherein the seating support platform assembly is rotably connected substantially near the structure distal end, the at least one standing platform support is rotably connected substantially near the structure proximal end, and the attachment member is connected between the structure proximal end and the structure distal end and includes a chain tightening assembly attached to the
- 15 mounting chain at the first end and further includes a mounting chain receiver for releasably receiving the mounting chain upon encircling the tree whereby the chain tightening assembly may impart a tensile load on the mounting chain thereby gripping the tree; and wherein the mounting structure includes at least one primary support to which the standing platform is rotably connected and at least one secondary support to which the seating platform is rotably connected, whereby the at least one primary support and the at least one secondary support are configured to cooperate with each other such that a distance between the standing platform and the seating platform is adjustable; and
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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
"Portable Tree Stand Having Seating and Standing Platforms Adjustable to the Tree Angle"
Serial No. 10/644,457
Atty. Docket No. 030717.002
Page 7 of 12

a seat support post having a post proximal end and a post distal end, wherein the seat support post is rotably connected to the support post mount substantially near the post distal end and the post proximal end is adjustably received by the support post receiver, such that the standing platform deck and the seating platform deck may remain in a predetermined angular relationship despite a non-orthogonal relationship between the mounting structure and the standing platform deck or the seating platform deck.

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10. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 9, further including a translation limiter to limit the travel range of the seating platform deck and the at least one receiver.

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11. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 9, wherein the at least one standing platform support is at least one adjustable platform support having a first member and a second member configured to cooperate thereby permitting the standing platform deck to slide away from the mounting structure, and further including at least one translation limiter.

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12. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 9, wherein the chain tightening assembly includes a threaded rod having a rod limiter at a first end and attached to a chain interface at a second end, a coupling, having at least one gripping stud, threadedly engaged to the threaded rod, and a mounting bracket for receiving the threaded rod and rotably joining the assembly to the attachment member

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
"Portable Tree Stand Having Seating and Standing Platforms Adjustable to the Tree Angle"
Serial No. 10/644,457
Atty. Docket No. 030717.002
Page 8 of 12

13. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 9, wherein the seat support post is formed with at least one adjustment receiver sized to cooperate with an adjustment pin so as to fix the position of the seat support post in relation to the standing platform.
- 5 14. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 9, wherein the mounting structure further includes a mounting plate that releasably connects the mounting structure to a tree screw fixed in the tree.
15. (currently amended) A portable tree stand designed to be releasably secured to a non-
10 vertical tree, comprising:
a standing platform having a standing platform deck, at least one standing platform support, wherein the at least one standing platform support is at least one adjustable platform support having a first member and a second member configured to cooperate thereby permitting the standing platform deck to slide away from a mounting structure, a support post receiver, and
15 at least one platform retainer having a retainer proximal end and a retainer distal end wherein the retainer proximal end is releasably secured to the standing platform;
a seating platform having a seating platform deck, a seating support assembly including at least one receiver attached to the seating platform deck and at least one mount rotably attached to the mounting structure, wherein the at least one receiver and the at least one mount are formed
20 to cooperate with each other such that the seating platform deck and the at least one receiver may slide away from the mounting structure on the at least one mount, and a support post mount;

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
"Portable Tree Stand Having Seating and Standing Platforms Adjustable to the Tree Angle"
Serial No. 10/644,457
Atty. Docket No. 030717.002
Page 9 of 12

the mounting structure having a structure proximal end, a structure distal end, a mounting chain having a first end and a second end, and an attachment member to releasably secure the at least one platform retainer distal end and the mounting chain to the mounting structure, wherein the seating support-platform assembly is rotably connected substantially near the structure distal end, the at least one standing platform support is rotably connected substantially near the structure proximal end, and the attachment member is connected between the structure proximal end and the structure distal end and includes a chain tightening assembly attached to the mounting chain at the first end and further includes a mounting chain receiver for releasably receiving the mounting chain upon encircling the tree whereby the chain tightening assembly 5 may impart a tensile load on the mounting chain thereby gripping the tree; and wherein the mounting structure includes at least one primary support to which the standing platform is rotably connected and at least one secondary support to which the seating platform is rotably connected, whereby the at least one primary support and the at least one secondary support are configured to cooperate with each other such that a distance between the standing platform and 10 the seating platform is adjustable; and

15 a seat support post having a post proximal end and a post distal end, wherein the seat support post is rotably connected to the support post mount substantially near the post distal end and the post proximal end is adjustably received by the support post receiver, such that the standing platform deck and the seating platform deck may remain in a predetermined angular 20 relationship despite a non-orthogonal relationship between the mounting structure and the standing platform deck or the seating platform deck.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION*"Portable Tree Stand Having Seating and Standing Platforms Adjustable to the Tree Angle"*

Serial No. 10/644,457

Atty. Docket No. 030717.002

Page 10 of 12

16. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 15, further including a translation limiter to limit the travel range of the seating platform deck and the at least one receiver.

17. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 15, wherein the chain tightening assembly 5 includes a threaded rod having a rod limiter at a first end and attached to a chain interface at a second end, a coupling, having at least one gripping stud, threadedly engaged to the threaded rod, and a mounting bracket for receiving the threaded rod and rotably joining the assembly to the attachment member.

10 18. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 15, wherein the seat support post is formed with at least one adjustment receiver sized to cooperate with an adjustment pin so as to fix the position of the seat support post in relation to the standing platform.

15 19. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 15, wherein the mounting structure further includes a mounting plate that releasably connects the mounting structure to a tree screw fixed in the tree.

20. (original) The portable tree stand of claim 15, further including a translation limiter to limit the travel range of the standing platform deck and the at least one receiver.